

Ken Biegeleisen, M.D., Ph.D.
133 East 73rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10021
(212) 717-4422

August 13, 2001

Prof. F.H.C. Crick
Director Emeritus, Salk Institute
P.O. Box 85800
San Diego, California 92186-5800

Dear Prof. Crick,

I respectfully request, and moreover strongly urge you to read the enclosed unsolicited manuscript, and then to write to Prof. Lee Segel, editor of the Bulletin of Mathematical Biology (BMB), advising publication.

As you must surely know by now, BMB published a prior paper which demonstrated quite convincingly that DNA is not a helix. Astonishingly, this paper (Wu, R. & Wu, T.T., 1996, Bull. Math. Biol. **58**:1171-1185) has elicited no response whatsoever from the scientific community, and it will continue to be ignored unless you help.

I am not asking you to help as a "favor" to me, or even to "advance human knowledge" (desirable though either of these may be from my perspective), but rather because I believe that it is in *your* interests to do so. If — as seems to be a foregone conclusion at this point — the structure of DNA in living systems turns out to be topologically *non-helical*, it will still always be lovingly referred to as the "Watson-Crick structure", forever...as long as it is perceived that you continued to participate wholeheartedly in the ongoing inquiry; selflessly, without regard for worldly reward or chastisement.

Prof. Segel is afraid to publish the manuscript, because he very appropriately fears that anyone who is perceived as "attacking" the double helix will be rudely mistreated. Wu's wretched post-publication experiences bear out, quite frighteningly, the real dangers inherent in challenging dogma, even in this self-proclaimed age of "enlightenment".

Yet, at the same time, Prof. Segel is also hesitant to reject the enclosed manuscript, because it was *he* who approved publication of the Wu study. Although he may not have thoroughly understood Wu's experiments at that time, I think he knows now, deep down inside, that Wu was right. So he's been "on the fence" for many months.

You can push him one way or the other. Prof. Segel's email address is <lee@wisdom.weizmann.ac.il>. Somehow I believe that you will do the right thing, and I thank you in advance.

Yours truly,
K. Biegeleisen, M.D., Ph.D.

